(c) whether the Secretary made any discussions with the Pakistan authorities on Kashmir;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Pakistan has raised at various times certain conditions tind pre-conditions pertaining to the ground situation in J&K and the two non-papers handed over in January 1994 for the holding of talks with India. Government have repeatedly conveyed to Pakistan our readiness for meaningful talks, formal or informal, with or without any agenda and at any time. Setting of conditions Or pre-conditions for such talks does not in our view, constitute a positive approach.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Mediation of U.N. Secretary-General tol Hold Talks Between India and Pakistan

33. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHA-"JIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to tfu reports that Pakistan had again urged the UN Secretary General Boutros Ghali to mediate or arrange "proximity" talks in its disputei with India over Kashmir.

(b) if so, whether, Government have got any information about Mr. Ghalis response thereto; and

(c) if so, what is Governments reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTCRNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) Government have seen reports to the effect that Pakistan has repeatedly urged the UN Secretary General to play a mediatory role in the Kashmir issue. Government are of the view that all differences between India and Pakistan, including aspects relating to J&K issue, should be resolved peacefully and through bilateral negotiations in accordance with the Simla Agreement and there caa. be no role of any sort for any third party.

Smuggling of Enriched Plutonium from Erstwhile Soviet Union to Pakistan

34. SHRIMAT1 KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what follow up action has been taken by Government on the illeged smuggling of weapon's grade enriched plutonium from erstwhile Soviet Union to Pakistan posing a serious threat not only to the country but the whole world; and

(b) What are the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN. THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) Government have brought to the notice of foreign countries inculding Russia that Pakistan is sustaining a weapons-oriented nuclear programme through clandestine acquisition of material and technology from abroad.

There is a greater awareness internationally regarding Pakistan's clandestine programme in this sphere. The Russian Government have also conveyed to us its principled position that Russia is strontrly apposed to the proliferation of nuclear material and that Russia would be endeavouring to improve upon its existitng system of providing security for nuclear material.

Russia favours Tnlia in Peace-keeping Operations CIS

35. SHR V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF FAIRS be pleased t» state:

(a) whether Russia is in favour of India's participation in peacekeeping operations in the territory of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and backs India for a permanent Membership of the UN Security Council; and

(b) if so, the reaction of government and steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISrEK OF STATE IN THE MINIS'! RY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHIATIA) : (a) Russia lias indicated that it welcomes India's participation in the UN peace-keeping forces in the Commonweath of Independent States. It has also indicated its support for India's candidature for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council.

(b) India has iutormed the United Nations that it is willing to provide observers i˙or the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNIMOG). At the onging 49 th United Nations General Assembly, India has formally announced, in its spescn in the general debate that it believes that, under any objective criteria, India is qualified to be a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Meeting of MICR representatives

36. V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representatives froia.Swit zerland, Australia, U.K. and the U.S.A. representing Missile Techno'ogy Control Regime (MTCR) met recently in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details about the con clusions reached at this meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An MTCR Quad team consisting of the representatives of Switzerland, U.S., U.K. and Australia visited India on 30 August, 1994 for discussions. The exchange of views was useful and enabled both sides to obtain a better understanding of each other's positions. A copy of the press statement issued after the discussion is given as Statement.

STATEMENT

SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT

Over ihe last few years, the MTCR has started to hold consultations with other countries with an advanced scientific and industrial base. Early this year, it expressed an interest in holding discussions with the Government of India, with a view to briefing us about the nature of the regime.

Go•erument agreed to the visit. The MTCR is represented by a Quad, led by me current Chairman, Ambassador Rolf Jekar of Switzerland, other members are irom US, UK and Australia, the Indian delegation was led by Shri Deb Mukher-ji, Additional Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and included senior officials from a number of concerned Departments .

This is part of consultations that Gov-ernment holds with other Governments and organisations on matters of mutual interest. There was an exchange of views. It was not the intention to reach agreements or negotiate any understandings.

This first exchange of views has been both useful and comprehensive. Government of India will consider further discussions $_{w}$ith the MTCR if the need arises.

NEW DELHI; I
August 30, 1994.

Compensation to India soldiers andn doctors died in UN peace keeping operations in Somaia

37. SHRI GOVIND RAO ADIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of compensation being paid to the families of Indian soldiers and Doctors who died on peace keeping duties in Somalia;